

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 L-02 AGR-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9197

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 19702

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, TH

SUBJECT: DELINQUENT COTTON CONTRACTS

REF: BANGKOK 19512

1. DELIGHTED TO LEARN FROM FASTO 76 WEIL BROTHERS AND THAI MILL UNITED PACIFIC TEXTILES HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT ON NOVEMBER-DECEMBER PAST DUE SHIPMENTS. EMBASSY HAS PASSED THIS INFORMATION ON TO MINISTRY OF COMMERCE WHICH IS INSTITUTING A SYSTEM OF PERIODIC CHECKS OF DELINQUENT CONTRACTS. ACSA MONTHLY LIST OUTSTANDING CONTRACTS EXTREMELY HELPFUL THIS REGARD. MINISTRY PROMISES GIVE US STATUS REPORT AFTER INITIAL REPORT HAS BEEN CONSIDERED BY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOREIGN TRADE SUTHEE WHO RETURNS FROM SINGAPORE DECEMBER 23. EMBASSY ALSO CONTINUES EXPRESS CONCERN FOREIGN MINISTRY.

2. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT EMPHASIZING TO COTTON SHIPPERS ASSOCIATION IMPORTANCE PROMPTLY NOTIFYING EMBASSY WHEN EACH DELINQUENT CONTRACT PROBLEM HAS BEEN RESOLVED. THIS WILL BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL TO EMBASSY AND MINISTRY IN OUR CONTINUED EFFORTS ASSURE ALL CONTRACTS ARE HONORED. IN SEVERAL INSTANCES MINISTRY HAS CALLED IN MILL REPS ONLY TO LEARN THAT THEY HAD ALREADY REACHED AGREEMENT WITH SHIPPERS.

3. WE NOTE FROM FAS PUBLICATION US EXPORT SALES RELEASED
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DECEMBER 5 THAT FOR DAILY SALES THROUGH DECEMBER 3, EXPORTS

TO THAILAND FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 24 TOTALED 3,800 BALES
COMPARED WITH 3,400 TO PHILIPPINES, 3,900 KOREA AND 400 BALES
TAIWAN. IT APPEARS THAI MILLS NOW HONORING A LARGER PER-
CENTAGE OF THEIR CONTRACTS THAN OTHER DELINQUENT COUNTRIES.

4. IT IS ENCOURAGING TO NOTE RAW COTTON INVENTORIES ARE
DECLINING AND SEVERAL LARGE TEXTILE MILLS WILL HAVE TO
SIGN CONTRACTS FOR SIZEABLE IMPORTS EARLY IN 1975. AGRICUL-
TURAL ATTACHE NOW PREPARING REPORT ON COTTON DEMAND PROSPECTS
IN RESPONSE FASTO CIRCULAR 487. PRELIMINARY PROGNOSIS GOOD
FOR SUBSTANTIAL US COTTON SALES DURING 1975 DESPITE 25
PERCENT DECLINE TEXTILE PRODUCTION THIS COUNTRY.
KINTNER

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